ISSN 0041-7904

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS INFORMATION BULLETIN

Vol. 41, No. 17

April 23, 1982

New Exhibit Examines History of Reading Materials in the United States

"A Nation of Readers," a new exhibit that opened April 21 at the Library, illustrates the significance of reading in American life from the colonial period to the present.

The exhibit is made possible by a grant from the Book-of-the-Month Club, Inc.

The exhibit weaves together four threads of American cultural history: the diversity of audiences, the variety of reading materials, the ways these materials are marketed, and the influence of selected American institutions that promote books and reading.

The exhibit demonstrates that Americans have had access to a variety of reading formats: chapbooks, horn books, subscription books, Big Little Books, Little Blue Books, Little Golden Books, and even "dummy" books, all of which are displayed.

Highlights of the exhibit include the first Bible printed in America, in the Algonquian Indian language; miniature printings of Lincoln's Emancipation Proclamation carried by Union troops to southern blacks in the Civil War; a European edition of Henry Miller's *Black Spring* with penciled deletions suggested by the attorney to American publisher Alfred Knopf; Truman Capote's notebooks of original drafts of *In Cold Blood;* and a report by a preliminary reader for the Book-of-the-Month Club on Raymond Chandler's *The Big Sleep,* rejected as "an entertaining Hollywood mystery, but nothing to write home about."

More than 100 items show that the book is capable of adopting numerous guises, as the audience demands. During the 1930s and 1940s children asked for Big Little Books and got such thrillers as *Tailspin Tommy and the Island in the Sky.* American GIs asked for special Armed Services editions and got James Thurber and E. B. White's *Is Sex Necessary?* Collectors asked for fine printing and illustrations and got The Limited Editions Club, while frantic high-school students asked for a quick read and got Classic Comics.

Also in This Issue . . .

American Folklife Center Plans April 29 Lecture, May 20 Concert 119

Newspaper and Current Periodical Room Now Set to Reopen on May 11 124

Copyright Office Holds Hearings on American Television and Radio Archives 118–119

CRS Emergency Operations Center Copes with Power Crisis 119

Processing Services Invites Comments on Statement of Principles Underlying US/MARC Formats . . . 120–124

Other materials in the exhibit point to the different ways books are marketed to the public and selected institutions that promote books and learning. Bookstores and libraries are obvious examples in these two categories, but perhaps not so obvious are "dummy" books: binding samples carried by 19th-century traveling salesmen so subscribers could buy books with a binding of their own choice. Institutions promoting books include the Library of Congress' own Center for the Book, established by Congress in 1977 to focus attention on and marshal support for the book.

"A Nation of Readers" will remain on view in the Great Hall of the Library's Jefferson Building through September 9.

ATRA Subject of March 24 Hearing

Representatives from the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS) and the Motion Picture Association of America (MPAA) expressed their basic support for the general idea of an American Television and Radio Archives in the Library of Congress at a public hearing held in the Copyright Office on March 24. They proposed, however, clarifications and changes in the regulations proposed by the Copyright Office.

As the hearing began at 9:30 a.m. in the Madison Assembly Room, PBS associate general counsel Jacqueline Weiss, PBS senior vice president Daniel Wells, and MPAA deputy general attorney William Nix came forward to testify before the Copyright Office panel, which included Register of Copyrights David Ladd, general counsel Dorothy Schrader, assistant general counsel Richard Glasgow, assistant register Anthony Harrison, and senior attorney-adviser Kevin Maricle.

The *Library of Congress Information Bulletin* is issued weekly by the Library of Congress and distributed free of charge to publicly supported libraries and research institutions, academic libraries, learned societies, and allied organizations in the United States.

Comparable institutions and organizations in other countries may arrange to receive the *Bulletin* on the exchange basis by applying in writing to the Library's Exchange and Gift Division. All other correspondence should be addressed to the LC *Information Bulletin*, Information Office, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

The subject of the hearing was the proposed rulemaking of the Copyright Office—to establish Office regulations providing a mechanism for making off-the-air copies and for demanding copies of unpublished television programs.

The new regulations would explicitly implement sections 407(e) and 408(b) of the copyright law, renewing a focus on the development of the American Television and Radio Archives provided for in the transitional and supplementary provisions of the Copyright Act—called the American Television and Radio Archives (ATRA) Act, section 170 of title 2 of the U.S. Code.

Mr. Wells of PBS assured the panel that PBS would like to help develop the archives by assisting with the development of selection criteria for television programs and by providing the Library with microfiche printouts of PBS catalogs. He also expessed interest in reducing any administrative burdens the new rules might place on individual PBS stations.

"There is an element of uncertainty in obtaining off-air tapes of PBS programming from local stations—Channel 26 does not broadcast all distributed PBS programs. The quality of an off-air tape might not be as good as the original. . . . sometimes individual stations add material to the broadcasts, such as the fund-raising breaks presently going on.

"The costs might be less if a tape was borrowed directly. PBS could provide a direct connection. . . . should the Library desire, PBS could provide screening services to avoid duplication," he said.

PBS associate general counsel Jacqueline Weiss expressed her concern about a possible additional administrative burden for PBS and urged the Copyright Office to clarify the regulations to provide that any taping done by the Library would also meet the requirements of the deposit requirements of the Copyright Office for published works.

Following her testimony, both Register Ladd and assistant general counsel Richard Glasgow questioned Ms. Weiss more closely about her fears of administrative burdens on PBS. Ms. Weiss explained her concern that the off-air or unpublished version of a program might not be considered the "best edition" by the Library, if registration is later sought as a published work. She recommended that the Copyright Office consider the off-the-air tape as the "best edition" of the published work if the copyrightable content is the same.

Ms. Weiss also pointed out that the proposed regulations called only for the notification of independent commercial broadcast stations of imminent off-air taping. She requested that the Copyright Office "expand this procedure to programs broadcast by noncommercial educational stations.

"This would be most helpful to PBS and its members in connection with such matters as the determination of any deposit obligation upon publication, advice to researchers, and the possibility of using the Library's off-air copy for registration," she commented.

Mr. Nix of the Motion Picture Association of America explained that he had three areas of concern in regard to the proposed regulations. He expressed the strong support of the MPAA for the archival efforts of the Library of Congress, citing the MPAA's cooperation in 1978 during the revision of the Motion Picture Deposit Agreement.

Mr. Nix proposed that the presumption in part (c)(4) that certain works were unpublished be eliminated or modified. He argued that such a presumption was not necessary, expressing his concern that such a presumption would be so broad as to apply to clearly published motion pictures. He argued that the presumption should not apply to signatories to the Motion Picture Agreement.

Second, if the presumption is retained, Mr. Nix expressed his view that the burdens created by the individual notification requirements set forth in part (c)(5) would create substantial new expenses and administrative burdens. Third, he argued that the procedures set forth in parts (c)(8) and (d)(1) for notifying independent stations of Library taping activity and demanding deposits by the transmitting organization rather than the copyright holder were "inappropriate for films." The copyright owner should be notified, as well as the broadcasting organization, he asserted.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Copyright Office panel promised to consider carefully all comments. The record remains open until April 24 for further written comments.

American Folklife Center Plans April 29 Lecture, May 20 Concert

Gustav Henningsen, director of the Danish Folklore Archives in Copenhagen and author of *The Witches' Advocate: Basque Witchcraft and the Spanish Inquisition (1609–1614)*, will present the address entitled "The Anatomy of a Witch-Craze: Toward a General Model of Mass Prosecution" on Thursday, April 29. The lecture, sponsored by the American Folklife Center and the Hispanic Division, will take place at 4:30 p.m. in the Whittall Pavilion of the Thomas Jefferson Building. The public is welcome to attend. No tickets are required.

The center's second outdoor concert of the 1982 season will present the Oboade Drumming and Dance Company of Ghana under the leadership of master drummer Yacub Addy on Thursday, May 20. The drummers and dancers of Oboade (meaning ancient or original) will perform traditional rhythms, dances, and songs which present a cross section of the rich musical heritage of West Africa. The performance will begin at 12 noon on the Neptune Plaza, Thomas Jefferson Building, and will last until 1:30 p.m. In the event of rain, the concert will be held indoors. No tickets are required.

The Congressional Research Service set up an emergency center (above) in the Congressional Reading Room in the Thomas Jefferson Building to take calls and continue service to the Congress on March 10 when workmen at a construction site on Pennsylvania Avenue cut an electrical power feeder line and disrupted service to the James Madison Memorial Building. Library staff and visitors were evacuated from the building shortly after 9 a.m. when the electrical power went off until the extent of damage could be determined. When it became evident that there would not be sufficient power to maintain the building, most staff members were dismissed for the day and the building was closed. Staff returned to work the next morning. There was limited use of the elevators and other electrical equipment in the morning, but later in the day full power was restored and Library services were back to normal. Pictured above (standing) talking to one of the readers is CRS Director Gilbert Gude.

APPENDIX

The US/MARC Formats: Underlying Principles

A review of the MARC family of formats for machine-readable cataloging, conducted under contract to the Library's Network Development Office by David Weisbrod of Yale University, started with the assumption that developments in library automation and the accumulation of experience in using the MARC formats might suggest specific changes to the formats for improved efficiency. The list of problems perceived as needing attention proved long and complex. It became evident that work should first concentrate on developing a statement of underlying principles for content designation in the US/MARC formats.

Using the report as a basis, John Attig of Pennsylvania State University drafted a statement of principles for inclusion in *MARC Formats for Bibliographic Data* and *Authorities: A MARC Format.* This statement was discussed by representatives from the bibliographic networks and the American Library Association's RTSD/LITA/RASD Representation in Machine-Readable Form of Bibliographic Information Committee (MARBI) last October and in January. The MARBI Committee will be host at an open discussion on this statement of principles on Sunday, July 11, during the ALA Annual Conference in Philadelphia, Pa. Those interested in commenting on these principles are urged to attend. Anyone wanting to make comments in writing may direct them to the Library of Congress, Processing Services, Automation Planning and Liaison Office, Washington, D.C. 20540, Attn: MARC Communications Format Specialist.

1. Introduction.

1.1. The US/MARC Formats are standards for the representation of bibliographic and authority information in machine-readable form.

1.2. A MARC record involves three elements: (1) the record **structure,** (2) the **content designation,** and (3) the data **content** of the record.

1.2.1. The structure of US/MARC records is an implementation of the *American National Standard for Information Interchange on Magnetic Tape* (ANSI Z39.2–1979) and of *Documentation—Format for Bibliographic Information Interchange on Magnetic Tape* (ISO 2709–1973).

1.2.2. Content designation—the codes and conventions established explicitly to identify and further characterize the data elements within a record and to support the manipulation of that data—is defined in the US/MARC Formats.

1.2.3. The content of those data elements which comprise a traditional catalog record is defined by standards outside the formats, such as the *Anglo-American Cataloguing Rules* or the *National Library of Medicine Classification.* The content of other data elements—coded data (see section 9. below)—is defined in the US/MARC Formats.

1.3. A MARC format is a set of codes and content designators defined for encoding a particular type of machine-readable record.

1.3.1. At present, US/MARC formats have been defined for two types of record: *Authorities: A MARC Format* and the *MARC Formats for Bibliographic Data.* These two types of record are mutually exclusive and functionally distinct.

1.3.2. The *MARC Formats for Bibliographic Data* are a family of formats defined for the identification and description of different types of bibliographic material. US/MARC bibliographic formats have been defined for Books, Films, Machine-Readable Data Files, Manuscripts, Maps, Music, and Serials.

1.3.3. The US/MARC Formats have attempted to preserve consistency across formats where this is appropriate. As the formats proliferated and became more complex, however, definitions and usages have diverged. While complete consistency has not been achieved, a continuing effort is being made to promote consistent definition and usage across formats.

2. General Considerations.

2.1. The US/MARC Formats are communications formats, primarily designed to provide specifications for the exchange of records between systems. The communications formats do not mandate the internal formats to be used by individual systems, either for storage or display.

2.2. The US/MARC Formats were designed to facilitate the exchange of information on magnetic tape. In addition, they have been widely adapted for use in a variety of exchange and processing environments.

2.3. The US/MARC Formats are designed for use within the United States. An attempt has been made to preserve compatibility with other national formats. Lack of international agreement on cataloging codes and practices has made complete compatibility impossible, however.

April 23, 1982

STAFF NEWS

May Is Savings Bond Month

During May, the Library of Congress will join other Federal agencies in the 1982 Savings Bond Campaign. Jodi R. Sigmon, assistant chief of the Examinging Division, has been named Library of Congress vice chair of the "Take Stock in America" campaign.

This year's bond drive got under way on March 31 at a Government-wide rally. The theme of the Library's campaign is "Bonds for a Better Tomorow." Within the next few weeks, each staff member will be visited by a keyworker who will provide information about Savings Bonds, explain the importance of the bond program, and offer the opportunity to participate on a voluntary basis.

Staff members are reminded that they may participate in this program through the convenience of the payroll savings plan. It is hoped that staff members will give this plan full consideration.

Chairing this year's bond drive for each department are Barbara G. Killian, Office of The Librarian; Harold Hooper, Office of the Associate Librarian for Management; Arnie Bellefontaine, Office of the Associate Librarian for National Programs; Barbara Taylor, Congressional Research Service; Rebecca Taylor, Copyright Office; James Bradford, Law Library; Paul Edlund, Processing Services; and Edward N. MacConomy, Research Services.

Staff Activities in The Copyright Office

Register of Copyrights **David Ladd** and other Copyright Office attorneys recently contributed articles on copyright issues to several publications. With general counsel **Dorothy Schrader** and senior attorney-advisers **David Leibowitz** and **Harriet Oler** as

Spring Comes to the Library of Congress

A rare spring day brought Library staff and visitors out of hibernation and onto the grounds to enjoy the warm sunshine on Friday afternoon, April 2. An unusual sight on the southeast lawn of the Jefferson Building was the simultaneous blooming of two of the Library's trees that are the usual harbingers of spring. The branch in the foreground belongs to the saucer magnolia, usually the first tree to bloom on the Library grounds. In the background are branches of the oriental flowering cherry tree.

coauthors, Mr. Ladd contributed a lengthy article on "Copyright, Cable, the Compulsory License: A Second Chance" to the summer 1981 issue of *Communications and the Law.* In two other articles, Register Ladd addressed the problems of home video taping; an article entitled "Private Use, Public Policy: Copyright and Home Recording" was published last December in the *Wilson Library Bulletin,* and "Home Recording and Reproduction of Protected Works" appeared in the January issue of the *American Bar Association Journal.* The speech which Mr. Ladd presented to the National Council of the Patent Law Association last October 31 was reprinted as a brochure by the Coalition to Preserve the American Copyright.

Michael Keplinger, chief of the Information and Reference Division, was cochairman of a conference on computer software sponsored by Law & Business, Inc., a subsidiary of the publishing company, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, Inc., in March. The conference, entitled "Protecting, Acquiring, and Marketing Computer Software for the Mass Market: Effective Legal Strategies," was held in New York City as a part of the continuing legal education program of Law & Business, Inc. Mr. Keplinger delivered a speech on "Copyright Protection of Computer Related Works: Mass Market Implications."

In late February, staff members attended two events in New York City designed to inform publishers and claimants of the new developments in the copyright law. Representing the office were **Patrice Lyons,** senior attorney/adviser in the General Counsel's Office, and **Jodi Sigmon,** assistant chief of the Examining Division. On February 25, the Practicing Law Institute presented a program entitled "Current Developments In Copyright Law." Jodi Sigmon and Patrice Lyons both participated in that session, attended by more than 100 individuals interested in the copyright law. Jodi Sigmon gave a presentation on the formalities of registration, proper placement of the notice, advantages of registering, and procedures followed upon infringement. Patrice Lyons discussed such topics as current problems in computer-related issues, record and film piracy, cable television, and home taping. Both the domestic and international ramifications of these topics were discussed. At a workshop conducted by the Association of American Publishers, Jodi Sigmon discussed the newly revised TX form and the SE form, as well as issues such as works made for hire and levels of authorship in collective works.

Online Users Group Holds Program on CONSER, NSDP

[**Editor's Note:** On January 15 the Online Users Group held a program devoted to two of the Library's cooperative serials programs—the CONSER (CONversion of SERials) Project and the National Serials Data Program (NSDP). In last week's LC *Information Bulletin,* Dorothy Glasby reported on the CONSER Project. A report on NSDP follows.]

Linda Bartley, former head of the NSDP Section, reminded those in attendance that the National Serials Data Program, established at the Library in 1972, is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year. As the U.S. center for the International Serials Data System (ISDS), the program is charged with assigning an International Standard Serials Number (ISSN) and a key title to those serials published in the United States. The Library supplies records of these assignments to the ISDS headquarters in Paris, which cumulates them into its data base along with records from other national ISDS centers and publishes them in microfiche.

On Friday, April 2, the WRA Choral Society offered its annual pre-Easter concert with John Watson (back to camera) directing. This year's concert was presented in the Madison Building Assembly Room, the first occasion on which the Choral Society has performed there. The audience enjoyed a presentation of both sacred and traditional and contemporary gospel music.

Credit Union Moves to Madison

The Library of Congress Federal Credit Union has relocated from the Adams Building to new quarters on the sixth floor of the Madison Building in the red core (LM 634). Following the weekend move, the Credit Union reopened for business at 11 a.m. on Tuesday, April 6. The first customer (right photograph, on the left) was Joseph L. Richardson of the Education and Public Welfare Division.

In addition to more space for staff and visitors, the lobby can also accommodate feeder lines for customers and the tellers' windows are larger and farther apart. There is a lounge area in the lobby, and there are private consultation rooms for patrons. The bright and pleasantly furnished surroundings will offer a better home for the Credit Union's employees and the many staff members who use its services.

As a CONSER participant, the NSDP section of Serial Record Division uses OCLC to create partial descriptive records according to AACR 2 (though without full authority work) and to enhance existing records by adding the ISSN and key title. NSDP records are created at the request of publishers, abstracting and indexing services, or CONSER participants, including the National Library of Medicine and the Library of Congress itself, all of which have occasion to seek ISSNs or key titles. A record can also be generated by the NSDP section itself under certain circumstances.

As a result of carefully cultivated relationships with publishers, along with U.S. Postal Service regulations requiring the use of ISSNs on publications mailed at second-class rates, many publishers are beginning to send prepublication and advance copies of new serials to NSDP to get ISSNs, creating a relationship much like that existing for monographs under the Cataloging in Publication Program. The Library benefits from this kind of early receipt of new serials and is able to do full cataloging of selected items sooner than would otherwise be the case.

NSDP will participate in a new project in the near future, if funding becomes available, in collaboration with the abstracting and indexing community, which will involve assigning ISSNs and key titles retrospectively to a large number of indexed journals. This project will allow for the uniform citation of such journals by all participating abstracting and indexing services.

Personnel Changes

Appointments: Dewey Hopkins, Jr., clerical assistant, GT–3, Photodup, M109D; Terry King, book preparation assistant, GS–3, Preserv, 20041; Julia Newcomb, research assistant, GS–7, CRS S, NP.

Temporary Appointments: Michael Bobrove, library aid, GS–3, P&P, NP; Deborah Brooks, ISIS clerk (data transcribing), GS–4, CRS D, 20035; Diana Brown, legal information technician (trainee), GS–4, LL O, 10697; Richard Califf, library aid, GS–3, CIP, NP; Robbin Huff, ISIS clerk (data transcribing), GS–4, CRS D, 20035; Joseph Peluso, clerk/messenger, GS–3, CRS C, 10637; Lawerence Potter, foreign affairs analyst, GS–5, CRS F, NP; Sally Taber, bibliographic assistant, GS–4, CRS L, NP.

Reappointments: Marilyn Benjamin, cataloger (advanced trainee), GS–7, Cop Cat, 20006; Roslyn Rakoff, MARC monograph verifier, GS–9, MARC Ed, 10692; Horace Smith, senior programmer, GS–12, User Application Office, 10577.

Temporary Reappointments: Alexis Pogorelskin, foreign affairs analyst, GS–5, CRS F, NP.

Transfers: Christine Zamaria, Cat Publ, to general clerical assistant searcher, GS–5, GRR, 20040.

Resignations: David Espie, Bldgs; Diana McCray, CS; William R. Noud, Jr., ASO; Herman Simpson, ASO; Marlene Wright, CDS.

Memorial Reading Planned

A memorial reading by the Capitol Hill Poetry Group in honor of Peter Petcoff, a reference librarian in the Main Reading Room who died in February, will be held on Friday, May 14, in the Whittall Pavilion, Jefferson Building, from 12 noon to 1 p.m. The program is sponsored by the General Reading Rooms Division, the last division where Mr. Petcoff worked during a Library career that spanned nearly four and a half decades (see the March 12 LC *Information Bulletin*).

Following the program, coffee, tea, and light refreshments will be served. The public is cordially invited to attend the reading.

Staff members who wish to attend this or other programs during their normal working hours should consult their supervisors.

Marriage Announcement

Diann J. Gillispie and **Malcolm T. Johnson** were married on March 27 at their residence. Mrs. Johnson is an editorial assistant in the Composing Unit, Printing and Processing Section, Central Services Division, and Mr. Johnson is employed by the Washington Gas Light Co.

Birth Announcements

Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt J. Davis, Jr., are the parents of a son, Antoine, born on March 27 at Howard University Hospital. Mr. Davis is a collections improvement assistant in the Collections Management Division. Mrs. Davis is a former shelflister of the Subject Cataloging Division.

David and Joyce Owens are the parents of twins, Erik Andrew and Karen Alison, born on January 7 at George Washington University Hospital. Mrs. Owens is a library information systems specialist in the Computer Applications Section of the Cataloging Distribution Service. Mr. Owens is employed in private industry.

2.4. The US/MARC Formats serve as a vehicle for bibliographic and authority data of all types, from all agencies. Historically and practically, the formats have always had a close relationship to the needs and the practices of the library community. In particular, the formats reflect the various cataloging codes applied by American libraries.

2.5. Historically, the US/MARC Formats were developed to enable the Library of Congress to communicate its catalog records to other institutions. National agencies in the United States and Canada (Library of Congress, National Library of Canada, National Agricultural Library, National Library of Medicine, and Government Printing Office) are still given special emphasis in the formats as sources of authoritative cataloging and as agencies responsible for certain data elements.

2.6. The institutions responsible for the content, content designation, and transcription accuracy of data within a US/MARC record are identified at the record level, in field 008, byte 39, and in field 040. This responsibility may be evaluated in terms of the following Responsible Parties Rule.

2.6.1. Responsible Parties Rule.

(a) Unmodified records: The institution identified as the transcribing institution (field 040 $c) should be considered responsible for content designation and transcription accuracy for all data. Except for agency-assigned data (see section 2.6.2.1. below), the institution identified as the cataloging institution (field 040 $a) should be considered responsible for content.

(b) Modified records: Institutions identified as transcribing or modifying institutions (field 040 $c,d) should be considered collectively responsible for content designation and transcription accuracy. Except for agency-assigned and authoritative-agency data (see section 2.6.2. below), institutions identified as modifying or cataloging institutions (field 040 $a,d) should be considered collectively responsible for content.

2.6.2. Exceptions.

2.6.2.1. Certain data elements are defined in the US/MARC Formats as being exclusively assigned by particular agencies (for example, the ISSN). The content of such **agency-assigned** elements is always the responsibility of the agency.

2.6.2.2. Certain data elements have been defined in the US/MARC Formats in relation to one or more **authoritative agencies** which maintain the list or rules upon which the data is based. While it is possible for other agencies to create similar or identical values for these data elements, content designation distinguishes between values actually assigned by the authoritative agency and values assigned by other agencies. In the former case, responsibility for content rests with the authoritative agency. In the latter case, the Responsible Parties Rule applies, and no further identification of source of data is provided. Authoritative-agency fields are:

050 Library of Congress Call Number
060 National Agricultural Library Call Number
070 National Library of Medicine Call Number
082 Dewey Decimal Classification Number.

2.7. In general, the US/MARC Formats provide content designation only for data which is applicable to all copies of the bibliographic entity described.

2.7.1. Information which applies only to some copies (or even to a single copy) of a title may nevertheless be of interest beyond the institutions holding such copies. The US/MARC Formats provide limited content designation for the encoding of such information and for identifying the holding institutions (see, for example, subfield $5 in the 7XX fields).

2.7.2. Information which does not apply to all copies of a title, and is not of general interest, is coded in local fields (such as field 590).

3. Structural Features.

3.1. The US/MARC Formats are an implementation of the *American National Standard for Information Interchange on Magnetic Tape* (ANSI Z39.2–1979). They also incorporate other relevant ANSI standards, such as *Magnetic Tape Labels and File Structure for Information Interchange* (ANSI X3.27–1978).

3.2. All information in a MARC record is stored in character form. US/MARC communication records are coded in extended ASCII, as defined in Appendix III of *MARC Formats for Bibliographic Data.*

3.3. The length of each variable field can be determined either from the "length of field" element in the directory entry or from the occurrence of the "field terminator" character. Likewise, the length of a record can be determined either from the "logical record length" element in the

Leader or from the occurrence of the "record terminator" character. The location of each variable field is explicitly stated in the "starting character position" element in its directory entry.

4. Content Designation.

4.1. The goal of content designation is to identify and characterize the data elements which comprise a MARC record with sufficient precision to support manipulation of the data for a variety of functions.

4.2. For example, MARC content designation is designed to support such functions as:

(1) Display—the formatting of data for display on a CRT, for printing on 3-by-5 cards or in book catalogs, for the production of COM catalogs, or for other visual presentation of the data.

(2) Information retrieval—the identification, categorization and retrieval of any identifiable data element in a record.

4.3. Some fields serve multiple functions. For example, field 245 serves both as the bibliographic transcription of the title and statement of responsibility and as the access point for the title.

4.4. Display constants (text which implicitly accompanies particular content designators) are defined in the US/MARC Formats, in order to conserve data entry and storage. For example, $x in field 490 (and other fields) implies the display constant "ISSN," and the combination of tag 785 and second indicator value "3" implies the display constant "Superseded in part by:". Such display constants are not carried in the data, but may be supplied for display by the processing system.

4.5. Although any explicitly identified data element may be retrieved, certain fields are primarily descriptive in function (for example, field 500) and are not designed for structured access.

4.6. The US/MARC Formats support the sorting of data only to a limited extent. In general, sorting must be accomplished through the application of external algorithms to the data.

5. Organization of the Record.

5.1. A MARC record consists of three main sections: (1) the Leader, (2) the Directory, and (3) the Variable Fields.

5.2. The Leader contains coded values, identified by relative character positions, which define parameters for processing the record.

5.3. The Directory contains the field identifier ("tag"), starting location and length of each field within the record. The order of fields in the record does not necessarily correspond to the order of directory entries. Duplicate tags are distinguished only by location of the respective fields within the record.

5.4. The data content of a MARC record is divided into variable fields. The US/MARC Formats distinguish two types of variable fields: control fields and data fields. The term "fixed fields" is occasionally used in MARC documentation, referring either to control fields generally or only to coded-data fields such as 007 or 008.

5.4.1. Variable control fields contain parametric or other data required for identifying or processing the record.

5.4.2. Variable data fields contain information not intended to supply parameters for processing the record.

6. Variable Fields and Tags.

6.1. The data in a MARC record is organized into variable fields, each identified by a three-character tag.

6.2. The tag is stored in the directory entry for the field, not in the field itself.

6.3. Variable fields are grouped into functional blocks according to the first digit of the tag. These blocks organize the data in a MARC record according to its bibliographic function in a traditional catalog record, not analytically, according to the type of information. Thus blocks are provided for main, added, subject, and series entries, but not for personal, corporate, and title entries.

6.3.1. For bibliographic records, the blocks are:

0XX = Variable control fields
1XX = Main entry
2XX = Titles and title paragraph (title, edition, imprint)
3XX = Physical description
4XX = Series statements
5XX = Notes
6XX = Subject added entries
7XX = Added entries other than subject, series
8XX = Series added entries
9XX = Reserved for local implementation.

6.3.2. For authority records, the blocks are:

0XX = Variable control fields
1XX = Heading
2XX = General see references
3XX = General see also references
4XX = See from tracings
5XX = See also from tracings
6XX = Treatment decisions; Notes;

7XX = Not defined
8XX = Not defined
9XX = Reserved for local implementation.

6.4. Tags are defined independently within each block. Whenever possible, however, parallel meanings for tens and hundreds digits have been preserved.

6.5. According to ANSI Z39.2–1979, the tag must consist of alphabetic or numeric basic characters (that is, decimal integers 0–9 or lowercase letters a-z). To date, the US/MARC Formats have used only numeric tags.

6.6. Certain tags have been reserved for local implementation. Except as noted below, the US/MARC Formats specify no structure or meaning for local fields. Communication of such fields between systems should be governed by mutual agreements on the content and content designation of the fields communicated.

6.6.1. The 9XX block is reserved for local implementation.

6.6.2. In general, any tag containing the digit "9" is reserved for local implementation within the block structure (see section 6.3. above).

6.6.3. The historical development of the US/MARC Formats has left some exceptions to this general principle. These are:

009 Physical description fixed field for archival collections
039 Level of bibliographic control and coding detail
09X Local call number(s)
359 Rental price
490 Series untraced or traced differently
590 Local note
690 Local subject added entry—Topical heading
691 Local subject added entry—Geographic name.

7. Variable Control Fields.

7.1. 00X fields in the US/MARC Formats are variable control fields.

7.2. Variable control fields consist of data and a field terminator. They do not contain either indicators or subfield codes (see section 8.1. below).

7.3. Variable control fields contain either a single data element or a series of fixed-length data elements identified by relative character position.

8. Variable Data Fields.

8.1. Three levels of content designation are provided for variable data fields in ANSI Z39.2–1979:

(1) a three-character tag, stored in the directory entry;
(2) indicators stored at the beginning of each variable data field, the number of indicators being reflected in the Leader, byte 10; and
(3) subfield codes preceding each data element, the length of the code being reflected in the Leader, byte 11.

8.2. All tags except 00X identify variable data fields.

8.3. Indicators.

8.3.1. Indicators contain codes conveying information which interprets or supplements the data found in the field.

8.3.2. The US/MARC Formats specify two indicator positions at the beginning of each variable field.

8.3.3. Indicators are independently defined for each field. Parallel meanings will be preserved when possible, however.

8.3.4. Indicator values are interpreted independently—that is, meaning is not ascribed to the two indicators taken together.

8.3.5. Indicators may be any basic ASCII character. (The basic ASCII character set includes numbers, lowercase alphabetic characters, certain punctuation marks, and the blank.) Numeric values will be assigned first. Blank is used in an undefined indicator position, or to mean "no information supplied" in a defined indicator position.

8.4. Subfield Codes.

8.4.1. Subfield codes distinguish data elements within a field which do (or might) require separate manipulation.

8.4.2. Subfield codes in the US/MARC Formats consist of two characters—a delimiter, followed by a data element identifier (a single basic ASCII character, not including blank).

8.4.2.1. In general, numeric identifiers are defined for parametric data used to process the field, or coded data needed to interpret the field. (Note that all numeric identifiers defined in the past have in fact identified parametric data.)

8.4.2.2. Alphabetic identifiers are defined for the separate elements which constitute the data content of the field.

8.4.2.3. Identifiers "9" and nonalphameric basic characters are reserved for locally defined subfield codes.

8.4.3. Subfield codes are defined independently for each field. Parallel meanings will be preserved when possible, however.

8.4.4. Subfield codes are defined for purposes of identification, not arrangement. The order of subfields is specified by content standards, such as the cataloging rules. In some cases, such specifications may be incorporated in the format documentation.

9. Coded Data.

9.1. In addition to content designation, the US/MARC Formats include specifications for the content of certain data elements, particularly those which provide for the representation of data by coded values.

9.2. Coded values consist of fixed-length character strings. Individual elements within a coded-data field or subfield are identified by relative character position.

9.3. Although coded data occurs most frequently in the Leader, Directory, and Control Fields, any field or subfield may be defined as a coded-data element.

9.4. Certain common values have been defined:

b - Undefined
n - Not applicable
u - Unknown
z - Other
l - No information provided.

Historical exceptions do occur in the formats. In particular, the blank (b) has often been defined as "not applicable," or has been assigned a meaning when a previously undefined element is defined.

Correction: The Newspaper and Current Periodical Room, which is being relocated from the Adams to the Madison Building, will reopen at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, May 11, not May 13 as announced in last week's LC *Information Bulletin* (p. 114). The facility will close in its present location at 5 p.m. on Friday, May 7.

ISSN 0041–7904 *Key title:* Library of Congress information bulletin